

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the present application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-10, 14-24 and new claims 25-28 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 3 and 11-13 are cancelled. Claims 2 and 4 were deemed allowable. Claims 8-10 and 14-24 are allowed. Claims 1, 5-7 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Breed (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0002451).

Reserving the right to traverse the rejection of claims 1, 5-7 and 11-13 as previously set forth, e.g., in a continuation application, claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 2 and claims 11-13 have been canceled. No new issues are raised by the amendment to claim 1. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowability of claim 2, claims 1 and 5-7 should be allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 25-28 are presented of which claim 25 is an independent claim which constitutes claim 4 as previously set forth rewritten in independent form. Claims 26-28 include the subject matter of claims 5-7, but depend from claim 25. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowability of claim 4, claims 25-28 should be allowable over the prior art of record.

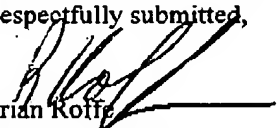
In view of the cancellation of claims 2 and 11-13 (of which claim 11 was an independent claim), no fee is due for the presentation of claims 25-28 as there will be the number of claims and the same number of independent claims before and after entry of the amendment.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner should determine that minor changes to the claims to obviate informalities are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

An early and favorable action on the merits upon entry and consideration of this amendment is earnestly solicited.

FOR THE APPLICANTS
Respectfully submitted,


Brian Roffe
Reg. No. 35,336

Brian Roffe, Esq.
11 Sunrise Plaza, Suite 303
Valley Stream, New York 11580-6111
Tel.: (516) 256-5636
Fax: (516) 256-5638